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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. It was not originally intended that Walter Ulbricht should accompany the East German delegation to Moscow; however, Nikita S. Khrushchev sent a request for Ulbricht's inclusion in the delegation. Thus Ulbricht, after having been rusticated for several weeks, was pushed to the fore again when it was considered worth while to use him.

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2. The impression is said to be prevalent among employees of the Politburo that Ulbricht will soon be dropped, in spite of his apparent return in September. Otto Grotewohl expressed the belief that if the Russians in their conference with West German Chancellor Adenauer succeeded in establishing a basis for negotiations between East and West Germany, the West Germans could not be expected to accept Ulbricht.¹

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3. Grotewohl was extremely unhappy about the inclusion of Ulbricht in the delegation. Shortly before his departure for Moscow, Grotewohl went to Niederschönhausen to see Wilhelm Pieck. Upon his return from the interview with Pieck, he dictated a memorandum for the record to the effect that Ulbricht was going to Moscow against the wishes of Pieck, and that Ulbricht had on his own initiative asked Khrushchev to prevent his exclusion from membership in this important delegation.

4. Later the same day Grotewohl and Pieck went to the Soviet Embassy. Subsequently Grotewohl dictated a memorandum for the record on the discussion with Ambassador Georgi M. Pushkin. The latter had said, "Do not worry about Ulbricht's actions. I can reveal to you that if Ulbricht had not gone to Moscow with this delegation, he would have been summoned anyway within the next few days, because as a result of the conference with Adenauer it is absolutely necessary for Ulbricht's policies to be altered."

1. Comment: Apparently the conference with Adenauer produced some new condition under which the Russians feel that they do not need to drop Ulbricht at this point.

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